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United Nations Environment Management Group

UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

**Partnership Forum of the United Nations
Environment Management Group**
15:00Hrs, 26 March, 2006
Curitiba, Brazil

Notification by the Chairman of the United Nations Environment Management Group (EMG)

**EMG Partnership Forum
(Curitiba, Brazil, 26 March, 15:00 Hrs)**



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Our Ref:

Date: 2 March 2006

The chairman of the EMG wishes to thank all for the positive response to his letter of invitation of 8 November 2005 and the active participation of members and other partners in the preparation for and deliberations at the High-Level Forum of the UN Environment Management Group (EMG) which took place in Geneva on 24 January 2006. The Forum was well-attended, forward-looking and constructively interactive and productive. He wants to thank all the members and partners of the EMG for their contributions to the success of the meeting. Please find attached the chairman's summary and conclusions of the Forum.

As an initial and immediate follow up action, our colleague Mr. Walter Erdelen, the UNESCO Assistant Director General for Natural Sciences, presented the main outcomes of the EMG High-Level Forum to the 9th Special Session of the Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GMEF) held in Dubai 7-9 February 2006. The Ministers at the Forum welcomed the extensive efforts aimed at reinvigorating the EMG, which they see as an initial and practical response to the outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the need for greater system-wide coherence in the fields of environment and human settlements.

As a second crucial follow up step, a letter has been sent (copy will be sent before long) to the UN Secretary General regarding the EMG's commitment to facilitate support and contributions for the on-going UN reform initiatives and particularly for the new UN Panel on System-Wide Coherence in the Areas of Development, Humanitarian Assistance and Environment.

As a third follow up step, the Chairman has decided that the EMG Partnership Forum will now take place in Curitiba, Brazil, on 26 March 2006, in the margins of the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It will be co-hosted by the Secretariat of the CBD, demonstrating that the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements are actively participating in the process of reinvigorating the EMG.

The Chairman is sending the official letter of invitation to the Executive Heads of Agencies and MEA Secretariats. The provisional agenda for the Forum is attached. He looks forward to your support for and participation in the Partnership Forum.

The renewed inter-agency commitment to achieve greater UN system-wide coherence and coordination on environment and human settlements issues through a revitalized EMG will only succeed if done in consultation and concert with our member States. It is the UN member States who ultimately decide our policies, priorities, establish programmes and allocate budgets. The main aim of the Partnership Forum is therefore to initiate that necessary dialogue between the EMG members and key representatives of our development cooperation and developing country partners so that the

new EMG initiatives better reflect their priority issues and concerns and also support the larger UN reform goals and efforts.

At the EMG Secretariat the focal points for the Partnership Forum are:

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At the CBD Secretariat, the following arrangements have been made by the Executive Secretary, for the purpose of the High Level Forum:

- 1- For substantive Issues
Mr. David Cooper
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- 2- For conference Services related matters:
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